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The Common Cause

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All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 2702.]*

Notes and News.

Women M.P.s.

In reference to our note last week, Mr. Gulland writes to point out that, as under the present regulations only the Government can introduce Bills, it will not be possible for any Private Members to introduce a Bill making women eligible for the House of Commons. The Conference of the National Liberal Federation at Manchester on September 27th passed the following resolution:—"This Committee, while recognising that all the objects set forth in the accompanying resolutions affect women equally with men, declares its opinion that special measures are needed for the removal of artificial restrictions on their opportunities. In particular, this Committee favours the opening of professions to women on the same conditions as to men; the conferment of University Degrees on equal terms; the admission of women to share in the making of Laws and the administration of justice; a revision of the law relating to the Guardianship of Children; better provision with respect to Maintenance and Affiliation Orders; equality of the sexes in the laws relating to Divorce and Morals; and *urges the Government, immediately on the reassembling of Parliament, to introduce a Bill giving to women the full rights of citizenship by making them eligible for membership of the House of Commons.*" The Liberal Party is now as urgent in its demand for women Members of Parliament as the Labour Party. The Government will no doubt take note.

The "Women's Party."

In case any misapprehension should arise in the minds of our readers as to the "Women's Party" which Miss Christabel Pankhurst, through the medium of the *Daily Mail* and some other newspapers, is asking people to join, we would remind them that this society is the offspring of the old Women's Social and Political Union, the organisation whose militant methods and violent hostility to Mr. Lloyd George aroused so much bitterness in the years before the war. It was from the beginning an autocratic organisation, with an uncertain membership, and a policy dictated by two or three individuals responsible to no one but themselves. Like most autocracies, it was not very durable; it split several times, till at last it was difficult for the public to discern what there was left. Mrs. and Miss Pankhurst have now revived the society, and given it a new policy in which militarism and not feminism appears to be the chief element. It supports Mr. Lloyd George with the same fierceness with which it once attacked him, and has turned its assaults against the Labour Party. There is not, and cannot be, any such thing as a Women's Party in any real sense, because women like men, are divided on some of the most important foreign and domestic questions. Our advice to women voters is to support the candidates in their own constituencies whose views they believe to be most for the good of the country as a whole, and to see that those candidates are thoroughly educated on the questions which women, as women, have specially at heart.

Mrs. Pankhurst in America.

Mrs. Pankhurst is reported to be denouncing British Labour and the League of Nations idea in America. We hope American suffragists, and others, understand that she speaks for nobody but herself, and possibly the members of her own society. We say "possibly" because Mrs. Pankhurst is not the elected representative of any organisation large or small. She resembles the high officials of Germany in professing to speak for other people and in being quite unable to show any proof that she does so. The claim to represent "Enfranchised British Womanhood" which she is said to have made is so palpably absurd that we think the reporter must have misunderstood her. If she really said anything like this we can only say that it is a fresh proof (added to those which come to us daily from another country) of how hard it is for those who have been autocrats or who have fostered an autocracy, large or small, to understand the realities of a democratic world.

The Women's Service Bureau's "Holidays."

We are interested to hear that during the "holiday months" of August and September, the Women's Service Bureau of the London Society for Women's Suffrage interviewed and advised two thousand three hundred and nineteen applicants. Two hundred and forty-three of these were women seeking work in munitions and aircraft; two hundred and seventy-seven were women and girls seeking guidance as to special training in other skilled occupations; the remaining seventeen hundred and ninety-nine were women requiring more general information about employment and conditions of work for women. The applicants, as usual, were of all classes and all ages and came from all parts of the country. A large number of them have been placed in posts or helped to obtain training, and all have had information and help of some kind. We fear that the workers in the Bureau cannot themselves have had much holiday, but the daily growth of their work for women and for the nation must be a deep satisfaction to them, and they give a living example of what a woman's organisation can do for feminism now, if it will go on working in the true suffrage spirit and with true suffrage vigour, and not think that, because some votes are gained, our work for equal opportunities can come to an end.

The National Union of Women Workers.

At the time of writing, the National Union of Women Workers is holding its Annual Council at Harrogate. Among the subjects of discussion are Equal Pay for Equal Work, Women and Trade Unions, Women on Government Committees, the Laws of Nationality, Hostels for Mothers and Babies, the Solicitation Laws and the Equal Moral Standard. We shall publish an account of the meetings next week.

Women and War Bonuses.

The recent decisions of the Committee on Production, given on cases referred to them by the Ministry of Labour concerning railway shops employees, furnish yet one more instance of the manner in which the question of equal pay is evaded. Bonuses not being wages, it is considered quite fair to make those paid to women smaller than those paid to men. In the decisions referred to there are two headings: (1) Men, (2) Women and Boys. This is a classification against which we must emphatically protest.

THE PROGRAMME OF THE N.U.W.S.S.

MRS. FAWCETT reminded us last week of some things women still have to struggle for, and told us that we must go on working for them not only for our own sakes but for those of the nation. The week before we reprinted the programme of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies as decided by the Annual Council meeting last February. We hope that our readers will have realised the connection between the two things. The programme illustrates Mrs. Fawcett's words, and those who intend to make a practical response to the call of our President for more effort, should study in detail the points at which this effort still has to be made.

The programme is, of course, determined by the objects of the Union, which are, to obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for women on the same terms as it is, or may be, granted to men; to obtain all other such reforms, economic, legislative and social, as are necessary to secure a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities between men and women; and to assist women to realise their responsibilities as voters. For this end, the Union proposes reforms which may be grouped under six heads, and which are directed towards obtaining votes for the women still excluded from the franchise; towards an improvement in the status of married women; the opening of all professions and positions in the public service to women; the equal moral standard; the economic equality of men and women; and the international rights of women.

The reforms necessary under the first head need no explanation, they would all be included in a simple change of the electoral law making it the same for women as for men. Under the second head—*i.e.*, the improvement of the status of married women, the Union has undertaken to promote legislation providing that parents shall be the equal joint guardians of their children, each with the power to name a guardian to act jointly with the survivor. It will be remembered that at present the father only is recognised as the parent of a legitimate child. He can, if he pleases, have the child brought up by persons in whom the mother has no confidence. He can decide what kind of education it is to have, and what religious tenets it is to be taught; in the most cases the mother is helpless in regard to him, she can be disinherited of her own child. At present our law takes no account of what we most of us instinctively feel should be the closest and most inviolable of human rights. This must be remedied. With the same object in view, the N.U.W.S.S. seeks to obtain pensions for widows with dependent children, and for widows who are incapacitated by age and infirmity. At present, a poor woman who is left a widow with a family of little children too often has to let them be taken away to orphanages, or to leave them in the care of neighbours (or uncared for) while she goes out to work; to see them starved or to fall back on the Poor Law. And many older women who have perhaps spent their lives in working for their families find themselves, on the death of their husbands, unable to earn and with no resource but "the House." Legislation for widows' pensions is therefore *urgent*, and can be demanded as a preliminary by those who wish for the endowment of motherhood, and promoted on its own account by those who do not. The N.U.W.S.S. also seeks to obtain legislation which will enforce maintenance orders on cruel and dissolute husbands with the possibility of making such orders a charge on wages when the man neglects to pay. Though Married Women's Property Acts were passed in 1870 and 1882 the law still does not regard a wife's income as entirely her own; for purposes of income tax it is treated as part of her husband's. In Scotland, a man may still veto his wife's freedom of action in dealing with her own property. These defects in law must clearly be remedied, and the N.U.W.S.S. is working to that end.

Under the second head, the opening of the public service and professions to women, the most important reform desired by the N.U.W.S.S. is the admission of women Members of Parliament. A few years ago the idea of women M.P.s was disliked by many, even among suffragists, but now public feeling has changed, and it is widely felt that not only will women not be properly represented unless they have women as well as men representatives, but that the nation cannot be properly ruled unless the best brains are available for its governing body, regardless of sex. The N.U.W.S.S. holds that a Bill should be introduced for the opening of the doors of both Houses of Parliament. When those doors are open others will have to open too; if Parliament needs the brains of women as well as of men, so do the professions, and if the law cannot be as well made as it might be without their help, so it cannot be satisfactorily administered without it; therefore, the N.U.W.S.S. works to enable women to become magistrates, barristers, solicitors and jurors, and to obtain full recognition and powers for the women police.

A special reason for the election of women M.P.s, the appointment of women magistrates and the improvement in the position of women police, is to be found in the lamentable social conditions which have resulted from the acceptance of a double moral standard for men and women. This double moral standard is indeed the root evil against which feminists have to strive It cannot be swept away by changes in the law, but certain laws which express and affirm it can be altered. Our great hope is in education and in the making and administration of law by those who really believe in the equality of men and women as human beings. The N.U.W.S.S. will work for the recognition of the equal moral standard by seeking to abolish laws like the present "law of solicitation and common prostitutes" based on a double standard, as well as the infamous order 40D D.O.R.A. This is the fourth part of the N.U.W.S.S.'s programme. All the educational work that it does will serve the same object, since all is designed to establish the status of women as complete human beings.

The fifth part of the N.U.W.S.S. programme is to promote the economic equality of men and women. This, as we have many times pointed out, has to be sought for along several paths; equal pay for equal work is one, and free admission to all trades, industries and professions, and to all forms of training for them, is another. It is on this field that the great feminist struggle of the near future will take place, and we hope that we may look to the N.U.W.S.S. to take a leading part in it.

In the last few days the promised land of Peace, which has long seemed as unreal as a remote country only known on the map, has suddenly shone like a vision before our eyes. In the coming months we hope to enter it. We are promised international reconstruction. As President Wilson and Mrs. Fawcett have pointed out, this reconstruction can only be real if it is based on the consent of all, of women as well as of men. The N.U.W.S.S. therefore desires that there should be women among the delegates to the peace conference, and that this conference should use its great authority to uphold free representative institutions based on the will of *all* the people, in all lands. It also asks that in the international organisation of the future, women should have the same choice of citizenship as men, and that nothing but their own will should ever deprive them of their birthright.

These are the reforms for which the N.U.W.S.S. stands. Can anyone doubt that we have still much to do, and that it is worth while to make great efforts to support the organisation which has already secured votes for women, and will in time secure all the rest?

The Status of the Illegitimate Child in Norway.

By Fru Anker.

Women have at last got the power to give their children a better chance to live than they have hitherto had, and the first question addressed to the women of Norway, who have had the vote for some time, is :—" What have you done in your country to prevent the death of babies?" The high mortality rate of babies in all countries is a striking illustration of government by men only. We know that in Germany half a million babies are dying annually in their first year, that is fourteen per cent. of the births, and here in England 100,000 babies die annually, which is equal to nine per cent. One feels amazed that women have not cried out in a torrent of appeals to have this state of things altered long ago. It is time indeed to protect motherhood and save the babies.

In Norway a new law has been passed concerning the illegitimate child. This law was part of an effort to improve the conditions of the mothers of the poor, and thereby protect the lives of their children. In Norway the mortality rate is eight per cent.—one of the most favourable in Europe—thanks to our healthy mountain air; but even so it is too high. Of 60,000 annual births 10,000 children die before they are grown up, 4,000 in their first year and 1,400 at birth. A great number perish during pregnancy.

It was shown that the unmarried mother and her child were most in need of help. About 4,000 illegitimate children are born annually in Norway; that is to say, seven per cent. of total births. The mortality rate of these children was on the whole more than twice as great as that of the legitimate during the first year. In the third month after birth, the rate of death was three times as great as that of other children, the number of still-born, 165 per cent., compared to that of the others. This was of course due to the miserable conditions of their mothers. As the law stood formerly, the unmarried mother was left absolutely alone with the whole care and anxiety and the economic burden of the child to come, at the time of life when women are most in need of a man's care, encouragement and support, and when she is in most need of sufficient food and rest. The unmarried mother was, in fact, not so well provided for as a domestic animal which is at least assured of shelter and of sufficient food and rest during this period. She had to work as before to support herself, or more than before to be able to put aside money for childbirth expenses and for the weeks when she could not possibly work. As soon as she was able to work again she generally had to leave the child to others, and to pay for its maintenance. The depressed state of mind of these lonely mothers, their lack of food and rest, caused their children to be born weaker than others, and if these children, moreover, were deprived of a mother's natural care and nourishment, one cannot wonder that they were dying at a double or triple rate to the others. The father had no duty to his own child beyond making a trifling payment of about five pounds a year. He had no duty whatever to support the mother. It is a fact that only forty per cent. of the fathers paid anything at all. Sixty per cent. of them shirked this duty. The law had made the payment dependent on the mother's demand and the result was that the mothers generally failed to demand it from fear of offending the fathers. They hoped against hope that the man would return and marry them, and therefore were afraid of giving him any trouble. On the whole the law helped the father to conceal the existence of the child.

In Norway a man or a woman who has a family cannot will away more than one-tenth of his or her fortune. The children inherit from their father and mother by law. The illegitimate child was placed in the same position towards its mother as a legitimate child; it had the right to take its mother's name—that means actually its grandfather's name—but not its own father's. It inherited from its mother and its mother's relatives, but not from its father. If the unmarried mother married another man, her child followed her to this stepfather's home and inherited from him through its mother.

The new law which was proposed in 1909 and passed in Norway in 1915 by a great majority in our Parliament enacts that :—

"Children whose parents have not entered into marriage with each other have the same legal position in regard to their father as to their mother."

This means :—

(1) That the illegitimate child shall have the right (not the obligation) to take its father's name. The mother chooses which name it shall have, and when the child is grown up it can decide itself.

(2) The child shall be brought up and educated according to the conditions of whichever of its parents is the most well-to-do.

(3) The child shall inherit from its father and his relatives as if it were born in wedlock.

(4) The establishment of paternity is compulsory.

Every birth is to be notified. A pregnant woman ought to state three months at least before birth to the midwife, when birth is to take place and who is the father. The midwife shall at once report this to the magistrate. A false statement by the mother or the midwife will be punished with penalties or imprisonment up to two years. Refusal on the part of the mother to name the father *within fourteen days after birth* is punished with penalties, and any one who co-operates with her to conceal the name of the father is punished with penalties. If she does not state the name after all the Court must itself call other witnesses to establish paternity.

As soon as information has been given to the magistrate he shall draw up a document in which contributions to child and mother are imposed on the father. The father is notified; if he does not answer, it is considered that he recognises paternity and accepts his duties. This will be the case generally. If he denies paternity he must, within a certain time, appeal to the judge and demand action to be taken against the mother. These proceedings are carried out by the administration without any expense to either of them. The paternity will then be decided by the court. The father must contribute both to the mother and child. The minimum contribution to the mother is a lump sum of £13. This sum is meant to cover childbirth expenses and help for the time when she is nourishing her child and unable to work as usual. In many cases the law will induce the man to marry the girl when he knows that he cannot escape from recognising and supporting the child, and if he has not absolutely lost all affection for her, he may think he may as well marry her, and the child will not grow up branded as inferior to other children. In this way the law will help to give the child a real home. This has already been our experience since this act has come into force.

Rural Housing.

By Lady Lawson Tancred.

We hear much about the "Housing Problem" nowadays and many excellent suggestions are constantly made by well-meaning people who put forward schemes that are often impossible of fulfilment. However, we all agree upon some of the main points. For instance, there is the need of at least three bedrooms for all houses that are to contain families of parents and children. This does not mean that all houses must have three bedrooms, as accommodation is required for childless couples, widows, bachelors and spinsters, and cottages with one or two bedrooms can always be utilised for people of this description. It should be made illegal for houses with less than three bedrooms to be let to parents with children of both sexes over a certain age.

The chief difficulty connected with country cottages arises frequently from their being very old. The majority of the more modern houses fulfil at any rate most of the requirements of decent living. Our ancestors had no idea of hygiene, sanitation, decency, or comfort, and even the large country houses of Elizabethan days are very uncomfortable to live in until they have undergone a considerable amount of alteration. Our English villages mostly date back to Saxon and Norman times, and houses have been built in them at intervals ever since. It is doubtful whether we can afford to pull down every one of these cottages and build new ones, when we consider the urgency of dozens of other costly reforms, and the necessity of paying off at least some part of the huge amount of borrowed capital which the War has forced us to spend so lavishly. However, something has got to be done, and undoubtedly very many of the old houses will have to be pulled down if they prove unfit for improvement and repair.

The great weakness of country cottages is often dampness, and if this comes from irremediable causes there is nothing for it but to pull them down. For instance, the cottage that is built below the level of the ground cannot be bodily uplifted to prevent the rain from washing in under the doors. Also, if a house is built with ill-fitting cobble stone foundations, through which rivers of water flow freely, there is no way whatsoever of making that house a dry one. On the other

hand if dampness is caused by trees, or a faulty roof, the house can be made quite satisfactory with comparatively little expense.

It should be made possible for landowners to borrow money from the Government at low rates of interest in order to do such things as raise roofs and thus ensure more air space, knock two houses into one where necessary, enlarge windows, put in economical kitchen ranges and bedroom fireplaces, and effect any other alterations that cannot ordinarily be classed as repairs.

The average country landlord is quite unable to meet the cost of these improvements unaided, owing to high taxation, high wages, and the high price of building materials, all of which have to be met without any increased rental. Many cottages are owned by persons of small means who prefer to invest their money in "something they can see" in preference to stocks and shares which exist apparently only on paper. It is quite unreasonable to expect persons such as these as well as the larger landowners to spend money lavishly upon building and improving houses if they are not to receive a rent that will pay them say four and a half per cent. or five per cent. on their capital.

It is impossible to build a good six-roomed house at the present day for less than £450, and if the landlord is to receive 5 per cent. on capital invested which has to include the value of the ground, he should receive 8s. 6d. to 9s. per week for a newly-built six-roomed house with a garden attached. Even under present conditions this is too much for the average farm labourer to be expected to pay, especially if his neighbour is living in an old cottage which is let for 2s. a week. The difficulty can only be overcome by financial help from the State, at any rate for the next few years. Possibly before long, increased agricultural wages and improved conditions, may make it unnecessary for the State to help in this matter.

The enormous shortage of houses in town and country has been generally estimated at 500,000 houses. If we are to meet this need it will be necessary to encourage private effort besides urging it upon local authorities. The question of the kind of house that is most suitable has been so often discussed that it is unnecesary to dwell on it here, but the writer would urge that the problem of the improvement of existing houses be more thoroughly gone into.

The average landlord often loses much interest in his capital through non-payment of rents, and in cases where illness or poverty are the cause a generous landlord will forego either part or the whole of the money that the tenant owes him. In these cases it is very unfair that the landlord should have to pay the full amount of income tax on money that he has never received, and the law should be altered in this respect. We want to encourage good landlords and good tenants and a spirit of "give and take." The tenant should be protected against the careless or indifferent landlord, and he should have some more effective means of compelling the landlord to undertake necessary repairs.

Nothing has been said so far in this article about bath rooms as they are hardly within the range of "practical politics," for the average country village which has not usually an adequate water supply. We have got to urge all our local authorities to arrange for a proper water supply to be laid on to every cottage. The enormous saving of labour and improved cleanliness that would result would more than justify the necessary addition to the rates in rural areas.

Last, but not least, comes the problem of the "tied" cottage. It is a matter of general agreement that the tied cottage system is on the whole an evil one, but there are cases where it is inevitable. There are many out of the way farms owned by non-resident farmers who place a paid foreman to live on the farm itself and to be at hand, night or day, to attend to the numerous needs of the four-footed inhabitants. Cows, horses and sheep cannot be left entirely alone all night all the year round any more than it is possible so to leave invalids or young children. If these paid employees are to be allowed to continue to live in their houses after they have have ceased their employment, it makes it impossible for the farmer to establish their successor in the only cottage from whence it is possible for him to do his work. On large farms it is necessary to have stockmen on the spot for the full twenty-four hours in addition to the farmer himself, in order to deal with expected and unexpected events of every kind. Unless all isolated farms are pulled down and rebuilt near villages (not a very practical proposition) it is hard to see how the tied cottage system can be completely abolished. The same difficulty might arise on farms situated in villages where cottages are scarce. In most cases the problem luckily solves itself because a man, on leaving his employment, goes to live near the spot where he becomes re-employed.

The housing problem is one that is surrounded by many difficulties, and it is one in which the new women voters will be especially interested. Women will be more and more determined that their homes shall be homes indeed, and they will realise their responsibility, not only for their own particular home, but for those of other women throughout the land.

Old King Coal.

The coal crisis will certainly affect the British housewife more intimately than it will affect any other person in the community during the coming winter. Not only will she be affected by the direct reduction of her own domestic supply, and all the changes it will necessarily imply in her daily routine of work, but she will, at the same time, be indirectly affected by the threatened unemployment and the further restrictions on traffic due to the shortage. Moreover, it seems probable that in the majority of homes the best of the fire, like the best of the food, will be reserved for the children and the wage-earners.

How far the shortage is an inevitable accident of war, and how far it is due to sheer lack of foresight upon the part of those set in authority over us, appears rather doubtful; and one vivid little glimpse of the official point of view is certainly not reassuring. The Coal Controller was asked, when the rationing scheme first came before the public, whether an extra allowance would be made in those districts where it is customary to bake at home. He replied delightfully that the present ration was sufficient for "an ordinary fire," and that, personally, he could see no difficulty in baking bread as often as necessary under those conditions. Comment upon this is surely superfluous; but what *would* have been said if any woman, appointed to a public position which allowed her a large share of control over one of the main industries of men, had displayed such a staggering ignorance of the elementary facts of her subject?

However, by exercising great self-denial, we may contrive to do without that novel delicacy, war-bread baked at "an ordinary fire." The family wash, especially in houses where there are several small children—small houses with a ration of only five or six tons of coal per annum—presents a more serious problem. Many laundries are refusing new customers, so the woman who has hitherto "washed at home" must perforce continue to do so, even if laundry charges were not, at present, quite prohibitive to small households with small incomes and many other expenses. And in winter the clothes have not only to be washed, they have to be dried, and cannot be dried in the open air, they must be draped round the "one ordinary fire" which has to suffice for all purposes. I am afraid the tired clerk or artisan or engineer who comes home to spend a cosy evening sitting amongst the steaming clothes-horses will be quite as disposed to blame his wife for his discomforts as to blame Kaiser Wilhelm the Second, and this will be manifestly unfair. Some cynical person has remarked that family affection will receive the severest test it has ever had this winter when we are forced to gather round the hearth and endure each other's society night after night in the good old fashion beloved of sentimental novelists. Certainly the enforced use of one room for reading, writing, cooking, sewing, the children's games and the entertainment of friends, will give a good many "superior people" their first idea of just what the housing problem means to their less fortunate neighbours; but this may be a very good thing.

The National Kitchens movement has, so far, only touched the fringe of the question. To blame the ordinary British housewife for the little use she has made of the Kitchens hitherto is not quite just. If her fire must be lighted for the sake of hot water, and the washing and drying of clothes aforementioned, it is easier for her to boil a saucepan at the same time than to leave her work and her babies, change her old skirt and apron for her outdoor things, walk to the nearest National Kitchen—which may be some way off—and walk back again in time for the mid-day dinner. And even then the food has often to be re-warmed to make it palatable.

Her real troubles begin when everybody has a different dinner hour; when father, or the children from school, or the elder boy from the shipyard, or the elder girl from the office, are coming in and out all day long, hungry and cold and often with wet clothes and boots to be dried. A tremendous amount of labour and trouble and fuel might be economised by the provision, firstly of more National Restaurants in the business quarter of every town; secondly, by the compulsory enforcement of the School Meals Act for, at least, the period of the war. The general

health of the childen would improve if they could be kept under shelter and properly fed at school during the dinner hour in the winter months of any year, when too many of them will merely be released to paddle home through the rain or snow to a cold room and a meal of bread and dripping; it would save us a good many little lives. It would also be an excellent thing if the schools could be opened again as Play Centres during the winter evenings; and the cost of lighting and warming such a building for two hours or so would be less than the cost of lighting and warming one of our many superfluous cinema halls.

Tentative suggestions have already been put forward for communal laundries and wash-hoses in populous centres, and the provision of pit-head baths for miners (why not baths and dressing-rooms on the works premises for all men engaged on dirty jobs?) is a reform long overdue. But these desirable things, when we get them, should be established permanently and not as a merely temporary expedient to meet a temporary difficulty; and with the present shortage of labour and building materials we can hardly hope to get them very soon. The "machinery" for school meals, on the other hand, is all ready to be set in motion once more whenever Parliament assembles; it was an astounding example of short-sightedness that it was ever laid idle. It is true that there has been no very strong demand amongst the working-class parents themselves for this reform during the past three years. One reason for this, of course, has been the higher level of working-class prosperity. War wages have, in the majority of cases barely kept pace with the rise in prices; but long spells of unemployment have mercifully ceased; and so long as the father is in regular work, the chief difficulty is to persuade him to accept any form of State aid whatsoever, either for himself or his family. It would be necessary to explain to him that the provision of school meals is merely another form of war economy, in which his co-operation is invited; and no doubt he would contribute to the cost according to his means.

It may be remarked incidentally that no one need envy the pitman's wife because her husband's employment places her outside the coal-rationing scheme for the present. Although she may receive her normal allowance of coal up to thirteen tons per annum, it will no doubt consist, as it usually does, mainly of dust and "slack," giving out about as much heat as half the quantity of "clean coal" supplied to the general public. And in the North of England, at any rate, she almost invariably does all her own washing and all her own baking as well. Pit cottages, too, are so small and inadequate for the families they contain that she would suffer from the rationing scheme even more severely than the rest of us are likely to do.

MADGE MEARS.

"Out of the Mouths of Babes . . ."

Wednesday, October 3rd, was a day of excitement for Belfast children. The proposed general strike of the teachers had come off, not especially well organised in Belfast, for reasons to be noted later; but if teachers had taken it up in a somewhat hesitating and timid way the children had thrown themselves into the struggle with a heart and a half, as they say themselves. Leaflets had been freely circulated by the Central Executive Committee of the National School Teachers' Organisation stating their grievances, pointing out that the highest war bonus given to them was only 8s. a week, while the bonuses given to Civil servants range from 19s. to 25s. a week. The leaflet urged all parents to support the one day strike and pointed out with truth that every other means had failed. Those women who had taken part in the deputation of the previous Saturday to the Chief Secretary knew how true was this statement, and watched with apprehension the fulfilment of their warnings.

Trade Unionism is naturally fairly strong in Belfast, a city of skilled labour, and the parents responded with readiness to the appeal of the teachers. A sketch of what happened at one school may serve to show how the business went, though it must be added that in some schools the full complement of children did attend. At this school the teachers had remained at their post, uncertain how the thing would go. A political element had been introduced into the strike by those who wished to discredit it, a trick constantly attempted in Belfast, and only too easy when political feeling is as high as at present. It was freely said the teachers were really acting in the interests of Sinn Fein, and this of course scared off many who would otherwise have been in ardent sympathy with the movement. It is interesting in this connection to note that the "Irish Times" published a leader in full sympathy with the teachers, in the course of which the women's deputation of Saturday was especially referred to. The Belfast press gave no editorial notice to the agitation of the teachers and little space to the reports of the meetings held in sympathy. However, the charge had brought a certain amount of dissension into the ranks, and in the particular school the six assistants came in on the Wednesday morning. The approach to the school was not very pleasant: children ran after them calling out "blackleg," &c., and when they arrived it was found about twenty children only were in the school. This number lessened, as several elder children arrived, with messages, real or imaginary, from mothers: "Mother says Johnny is to come home," and Johnny, age six, is haled away with the reproach, clearly heard by the few children in the class-room, "What took ye in there? didn't you know them ones in there is all blacklegs?" Jeanie, age seven, had announced the day before she would not come to school, because "you ones aren't being paid right, miss, and we're going to help yous get it." During the morning the children outside paraded round the schools, singing and shouting. In several cases, the schools were closed and the few children inside quietly sent away, for fear there would be actual disturbance. In one neighbourhood about 3,000 children had collected outside a big school, and it looked for a while as if the thing would end in more than songs and shouts. Meanwhile by midday on Wednesday came the official announcement that the authorities had consented to refer the claims of the teachers to the Arbitration Court! These claims had been before them for years: the threat of the strike had been fully explained at least three weeks before: the deputation of Saturday had warned them of the probable consequences to the children—but the announcement which might have averted the strike came after it had well begun. The moral was drawn by Minnie, aged ten, "Sure, Miss, and did you hear how we got them ones to mind what the teachers were after sayin'?"

Well, if the demands of the teachers are not granted by the Arbitration Court, there will be a further strike in November, a prospect regarded with great interest by the children and with anxiety by the mothers, who do not want the children running the street and coming home in wild excitement. "It's hard to mind them when the likes of that's goin' on, but sure what else could they do?" Possibly the authorities may act in time—but the present mischief is done and is past mending.

DORA MELLONE.

Victorian Heroines.—VII.

THE WOMEN OF THE BRONTË NOVELS.

In an unforgettable series of pictures, Mrs. Gaskell has shown Charlotte Brontë as she appeared to the world she lived in. As a child, queer and unchildlike, in the ugly little parsonage at Haworth; at school in the Lowood of *Jane Eyre*; as a governess in a family where, when the little boy says "I love you, Miss Brontë," his mother replies, in shocked disapproval, "Love the *governess*, my dear!"; at the pensionnat Héger in Brussels; back again in the parsonage watching her brother drink and drug himself to death, and her sisters sicken into consumption; finally in her desolation of loneliness—as much alone if she is trying, in an anguish of shyness, to talk at a dinner party Thackeray gives in her honour, as she is in the solitary evenings at home, or walking heart-broken over the moors.

That is what the world saw: these scenes lived through by a plain, large-nosed, undersized woman, saddened by tragic circumstances, painfully shy, and unable to communicate either charm or intelligence to whatever society she found herself in. In her social relationships she showed only the crust and rind of her nature: it was in her books, and particularly in the presentation of her heroines that she showed her heart. They are all women like herself, suffering, baffled, alone: women who live through a time when existence becomes a "useless, blank, pale, slow trailing thing" as it did to her. They all know the bitter truth of the words she makes Jane Eyre cry out to Rochester: "We were born to strive and endure: do so," and of those she gives to Helen Burns: "It is weak and silly to say you *cannot bear* what it is your fate to be required to bear." Lucy Snowe is lonely with the tearing, racking misery of loneliness which was the portion of her creator. She tastes suffering brewed in no temporal or calculable measure in the dream cup that is forced to her lips and whose draught leaves her sick with unutterable despair. The whole horror of her vision is in those simple words: "Methought the well-loved dead,

WOMEN WORKERS & THE FUTURE.—3.

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who had loved *me* well in life, met me elsewhere, alienated." Lucy knows the pit of darkness to its grimmest depths "Solitude is sadness," someone says to her. "Yes, it is sadness" she replies, "Life, however, has worse than that. Deeper than melancholy lies heart-break." Lucy knew heart-break, like Charlotte herself: she knew the borderlands of the mind between sanity and madness; she suffered as Lear suffered after the storm scene; she experienced that state of mind where the perceptions are intensified and sharpened to such a pitch that the mind is capable of supernormal and uttermost pain.

But through all, Charlotte Brontë's heroines keep the unflinching belief that sustained herself. In the agony of their tragedies, they still gasp out as it were, the gospel of faith and courage and idealism which opens the thirty-eighth chapter of *Villette*. This is the faith Charlotte built her life upon, and it is because of the fiery force of character and unconquerable will behind it that it is so ridiculous to take the view that she was a neurotic hysterical woman in the grip of a temperament which she was powerless to control, and that she simply wrote out her heart-hunger in her books. Like her own heroines, her feelings are always sternly in check to her character. She bitted and bridled them, and drove them as slaves to her artistic aims. It was her intensely strong and sensitive emotional nature which made her books possible, but it is the fact that she had her passion completely in the control of her mind which made them great books. From the ashes of her own seared spirit was created the phœnix of her art.

Charlotte Brontë's artistic presentation of her heroines is, nevertheless, very unequal. She is flawless in the creation of atmosphere and background for her figures. She brings the quality of exquisite perception to every scene she handles, suggesting the reality of life itself about her heroines in their most trivial as well as their most passionate moments. Her intentness of vision is aided by that spiritual faculty which "sees into the life of things." The school scenes in *Villette*: the awful red room in which Jane Eyre is locked up: the scenes at Lowood: Jane's first view of Ferndean when she returns to Rochester, all illustrate this power They suggest the feeling of concentrated human sensation which gives them the reality of actual experience. This creation of background to assist in the representation of character and action is especially seen in Charlotte Brontë's description of scenery. All through Jane Eyre particularly, the destinies of the heroine are mysteriously linked up with the powers of earth around her, and we are never far from the sense of them.

But side by side with this perfection of suggestive power there are striking contrasts in her management of dramatic character and situation. She fails almost as often as she succeeds. The fine emotional conception is always there, but often it is strangled at birth; the struggle for expression leaving it lifeless and cold. In Jane Eyre, for instance, while the scene between Jane and Rochester in the orchard is perfect in its humanity, and the scene of Jane's struggle in her own room no less perfect, the great climax where she tells him of her determination to leave him jars over and over again. Some of the passion behind all the rhetoric and laboured imagery does indeed get through to the reader, but it is little short of a miracle that it does. And she is worse still in *Shirley*. That chapter called "In the Valley of the Shadow," written after the deaths of Emily and Ann, when her own heart was broken, rings falser than any other scene she ever wrote. Her own feelings were too raw and torn to be subdued to the purposes of art, and Caroline Helstone's love-sick delirium is as obviously faked as the equally convenient delirium at the end of Wells's *Marriage*.

It is, perhaps, in the lack of complete artistic detachment that Charlotte differs most from her sister as a creator of character. Charlotte's writing, in spite of the subordination of her passion to the purposes of her art, reads sometimes like a personal cry of pain. It was almost impossible that it should not, since her heroines have always the power of suffering which characterized herself. But in *Wuthering Heights* this intense consciousness of the personality behind the pen is never present. Emily Brontë's life history is forever hidden in darkness: enduring silence guards her secret. Of what her inner spirit felt something can be guessed from her poetry, and her genius burns clear for all to see in *Wuthering Heights*; but no critic has ever dared to identify Emily with any of her artistic creations. The mere idea of such a thing seems absurd. But the women of her great novel are every bit as vivid as Jane Eyre or Lucy Snowe, and the dramatic truth of their portraiture is more unerring. She possesses all Charlotte's power of external perception. Catherine Earnshaw is throbbingly real in her flesh-and-blood presence: "A wild wicked slip she was . . . she was never so happy as

when we were all scolding her at once and she defying us with her bold saucy look and her ready words." We see every detail of the escapade which caused her first visit to Thrushcross Grange or of the scene where she strikes Nelly Dean because she will not leave her alone with Edgar Linton. Yet vivid as her material presence becomes to the reader, it is as nothing beside her spiritual force. She is elemental, a being of flame and wind. Heathcliff is the central character of the book, but inextricably intertwined with his personality and his actions is the idea of Catherine. She is never out of the story any more than he is; the reader is sensible of her persuasive presence from the moment that her spirit means to Lockwood, "Let me in, let me in"; and during the latter half of the book the knowledge is never absent that Heathcliff's passionate invocation at her grave that she should come and haunt him through life, has been fulfilled. The love between them burns its fiery way through the whole book, whether Catherine is alive or dead it cannot die: it is not a thing of the body. Its unearthly fierceness flames triumphantly onwards, searing and scorching Heathcliff's soul in its all-consuming and relentless power. It is in the representation of the earthly scenes of this passionate spiritual union that Emily Brontë's genius is seen at its height. The great central dramatic moment of the book is prepared for, by picture after picture of vivid emotional colour. From the moment that Cathy decides to marry Edgar Linton we know that she is doomed, just as she knows it herself. With Heathcliff's return, the spiritual atmosphere becomes charged with coming disaster. The scenes of Catherine throwing herself on her bed exclaiming: "Well, if I cannot keep Heathcliff, if Edgar will be mean and jealous, I'll try to break their hearts by breaking my own," or of her staggering to the window and flinging it open to feel the elemental forces which she so much resembles, prepare us for the tumult of the final catastrophe. The climax is a surging, gasping scene of "love surcharged with hatred: hatred staggering beneath its load of love" in which beauty and terror, human passion and inexorable fate clash in one moment of magnificent art.

"I wish I could hold you till we were both dead," says Catherine, locked in Heathcliff's embrace. And though her mortal form slips fainting from his arms, her wish is fulfilled in the immortal world of spirit.

In all Charlotte Brontë's novels there is no scene which can compare in human truth and dramatic swiftness and strength with this—the work of perhaps the most mysterious and unapproachable genius in our literature: a woman whose personality never reveals itself, but whose great heart her sister has enshrined in her description of Shirley's "Like snow, for it was pure: like flame, for it was passionate: like Death, for it was strong."

Reviews.

Reconstruction Problems, issued by the Ministry of Reconstruction. 1. "Aims of Reconstruction." 2. "Housing in England and Wales." (Pelican Press, 2, Carmelite Street, E.C. 4. Price 2d. each.)

The issue, by the Ministry of Reconstruction, of two of a series of pamphlets gives those who need it an opportunity of doing a little Pelmanising about the full connotation of the word "Reconstruction": no longer is there any excuse for any one being like the old lady who delighted to utter "that blessed word Mesopotamia" only because it was comforting and to be found in Holy Writ.

The two pamphlets, "Aims of Reconstruction" and "Housing," plot out a wide field of labour. No. 2, full of information, is astonishingly dull. Our readers will do well to master the facts given, and, presenting them in speech and press as vividly as they well know how, to fire the imagination of the public, and thus create the strong driving force without which the subject will become stale before a tenth part of the need is met. Also, they should see to it that housewives are consulted in fact as well as in theory. "Bad and inadequate housing . . . . . is one of the chief causes of the spread of disease, of infant mortality, and of physical deterioration, and also of social and industrial unrest"; while "to build a large number of new houses is essential for increased food production and rapid demobilisation, and will assist in preventing unemployment after the war." If people can be got to believe all this, houses will probably go up. No. 1 pamphlet "Aims of Reconstruction" makes a more direct appeal to those who hope that adventures of peace may become as inspiring as adventures of war. In its introduction it says "there is very much to be

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The Lancet says: "We congratulate the author on his careful study of the healthy infant, about whom it has too long been difficult to obtain exact information."

DEMOCRACY AT THE CROSS ROADS

By M. D. PETRE. Cloth, 4s. 6d. net.

"Men are fighting, women are nursing and working, statesmen are planning, and all to 'make the world safe for democracy.' But what if democracy turned out to be unsafe for itself and the rest of the world?" The question is discussed in this book, and should be carefully considered.

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ashamed of when we look back to the conditions of July, 1914." . . . . Out of justice to the living and out of reverence to the dead, we are called upon to rebuild the national life on a better and more enduring foundation." Then, linking up this ideal with a piquant realism, it passes on to deal with *ships*. First of all things, we must know how many ships we shall have, and then what we intend to put into them, and when we have duly put "cotton and wool and leather and metals" and other things, into our ships, we must decide how to divide the things, and, all the time we must remember that "the international question is bound up with the domestic" because "all the industrial countries, allied, neutral, and enemy alike, will be in need of raw material." Then, in our own country, how are things to get into their right place? Rural areas are to have light railways, and the canals are to be "renovated," and there is to be devised a system of "civil ærial transport." Then down to familiar earth again—Industrial Organisation, Rural Development, Health, Education and, touching everything—that most lively, most controversial of matters, Finance. Truly this pamphlet makes us want to get going.

A. H. W.

Songs for Sale. (Blackwell, Oxford. 3s.)

This Anthology, edited by E. B. C. Jones and published by B. H. Blackwell, of Oxford, incorporates what the editor considers to be the best and most representative work of those minor poets whose poems have already been published by this firm. Having overcome the repugnant type, I read the book from end to end and found myself well instructed in the faults of modern verse, and with a desire to read again the works of Black, Keats, Brooke, and Milton, whose inspiration seems to have been borrowed by many of the versifiers.

To begin at the beginning. Jane Barlow, true to the age, says "hapchance," "evanished," and "unfooted"; and only "Here soft falls silence down the hushed grey eve" and "And sings to please themselves" give pleasure, in a poem the first verse of which appears to be nonsense and ungrammatical. Frank Betts is represented by a tiresome allegory saved by the last verse. Wilfrid Blair's perfectly charming *Strange Servant* is only spoilt by the not altogether successful lengthening of the fourth line in every verse; but his *Tidings* has the depressing modern mannerism epitomized by the word "down-squatted." Charming also is Elizabeth Bridge's *Faint Sea and Far Sky* in spite of the line "Dim forest strangely tall" which is pure modernese, and the affectation "Birdé." A memory of Rupert Brooke's half-passionate passion comes back in the *Nos Idem Mortales* of M. St. Clare Byrne. *The Unsatisfied* of W. R. Childe has one line in it which catches the imagination—"And vast democracies a crowd of boys"; and here and there in *Blixim under the Hill* and *The Splendid Road* are good lines; but except for *Hirundo*, which is quoted in full, modernisms such as "terrible azure," "lilied irised pool," "roofs of her," "Midmost of those translunar palaces," spoil his work.

"The swallows in the high street said,
Twittering to the solemn west;
'Death is dead, death is dead,
Love has come off best.

"'We had the news from Prester John,
To Northern folk we tell it now,"
Sitting upon his amber throne,
Under the golden bough.

"Under the golden Paradise tree,
Where he sits and dreams all day,
In the valley of Immortality,
That is so far away!'"

E. L. Duff is too coloured; but *Scheherazade* is conventionally decorative. *The Record*, by Douglas Cole, is simple, clear, and touches the heart:—

"We passed by chance at the door,
The gloom was in thy face;
This is the self-same place,
Here where we meet no more.

"I had oft seen thee glad
Or listless or asleep,
But my heart gave a leap
To see thy face so sad.

"And my lips idly moved,
And my mouth strove to cry,
As thou wast passing by,
O lost and dearly loved."

The same may be said of E. B. C. Jones's *Jerked Heartstrings in Town*:—

"I have heard echoes and seen visions of you
Often of late. Once yawning at a play
A sad keen rapture suddenly pierced me through
Because one puppet moved and sighed your way.

"An omnibus-conductor fixed your glance
—Intense, preoccupied—upon my fare;
I saw your stooping shoulders, at a dance,
Lean by a doorway; but you were not there.

"Down Oxford Street, in the slow shopping crowd,
Hearing your very voice, 'Ah, that's superb,'
I turned—a tawdry simpering little dowd
Passed by, and left me trembling on the kerb."

T. W. Earp and E. B. C. Jones have the best poems in the book. Mr. Jones's poem *Middle-Age* is full of sympathetic imaginations, and Mr. Earp, in *Departure*, has added a "gesture of his own" to English quotations:—

"I have been reading books
For about twenty years;
I have laughed with other men's laughter,
Wept with their tears.

Life has been a cliché
All these years.

I would find a gesture of my own."

His other poems are all "Brooke."

H. R. Freston's work is well-written; but one poem is spoilt with the word "ghost-swift" and neither are arresting; nor are the verses by A. P. Herbert and S. Reid-Heyman. Roger Heath's sonnet *To All Minor Poets* is delightful. Aldous Huxley's poem *The Canal* ought to rank among the best; it has only one defect—the two-and-a-half last lines of the second quatrain, with the strained image of the bleeding sun. Good, also is *Contrary to Nature and Aristotle;* but *Mole* is a poor imitation of Brooke's *Heaven*, though it has good lines and notions. E. B. C. Jones's *Forests*, a horrible piece of verse with tolerable Brookian last four lines, is as ugly as Christopher Jonson's *Noontide*, and not as successfully ugly as Edith Sitwell's *Clowns' Houses*, which is the epitome of sick imagination well expressed. Mr. Jonson burdens his verse with horrid adjectives and unnatural images. Only five lines of Mr. Meyerstein's catch the ear—those beginning: "Whether it was the voice of Pan . . ."; but the first lines of the same poem recall nursery efforts. The inspiration of J. S. Muirhead's vision—I presume it was Blake's—shines in spite of his faulty imagination and incrusted verse; and again, I feel what Dorothy Plowman felt when she saw Shotover; but her way of expressing it is prosaic and washy. The three lines beginning: "But in the wood . . ." I read several times. Max Plowman's thoughts are inspired by Blake; *Tell me Thy Name* has not quite fulfilled itself. Elizabeth Rendall's first poem charmed me with its simple delicacy; she evidently admires Walter de la Mare—at least she has acquired his touch.

Dorothy L. Sayers and Sherard Vines are considerable poets, but they are not here at their best; they have condescended to a minority, and except in *A Man Greatly Gifted* and *Of Quiet*, have not succeeded; they should not have been included in this Anthology; they are on a different level. We all want them to become English poets.

Edward Shillito's *Thanksgiving* and E. Wyndham Tennant's *In Memoriam, W.W.B.* are the thoughts of ordinary mortals; and I am glad they expressed them. I am not glad either of Osbert or of Edith Sitwell's cruel rhymes, except *The Lament of the Mole Catcher*. Just here and there Doreen E. A. Wallace catches a fine notion in her well-written *Harvest*, but modernisms crowd her verse. Willoughby Weaving falls over himself and fails to catch the ear with his metres; I do not know why there are so many of his poems included in *Songs for Sale*. *The Philtre* is the only selection that should have been made.

I have done my best in eight hundred words to bow to everybody represented in the book; I prefer to raise my hat to individuals. It is a thing for a century to be proud of that so many girls and young men who are not geniuses can write such fine verses and get a hearing.

R. W.

Women. (Martin Secker. 5s.)

It is the grain of truth in many of its statements which makes such a book as this pernicious; some girls are "lazy, pleasure-loving, chocolate-eating, intellectually-unambitious creatures"; some women do write prurient books; many more do none of these things. How would the anonymous male author of this book relish the publication of a slight volume with the (methaphorically speaking) vast title of *Men*, in which a woman announced her conviction that the other sex were grossly vain; so vain that by being an attentive audience, by flattery and admiration (real or simulated), any woman could captivate a member of it? And yet this statement would be no more fatuous than the frequent accusations of egoism levelled in *Women*, against the female sex as a whole. The following extracts will indicate what manner of man and thinker this is:—

> "They [men] have many interests. With women the case is different. In fact, I do not believe they have any at all." (P. 47.)
>
> "Sex, repressed, produces . . . various kinds of vice; it produces hysteria; it produces, I think, as a painful relief to emotional faculties overcharged with feeling and with pain, the serious and pathologically-instructive article which we call the 'women's novel.' Novel-writing among women is thus a form of hysteria." (P. 52.)
>
> "It [constraint on men's part in intellectual relations with women] is due to the fact that a woman is incapable of thinking or arguing disinterestedly, from pure love of truth." (P. 115.)
>
> "Women, being unoccupied, and rather vainly eager, have turned to politics." (P. 115.)

Suffragists will be relieved to hear, however, that the author regards the vote as an "unquestionable" right.

The book is written with a "smartness" which does not make its contents the more palatable.

The Englishwoman, October. (11 Haymarket, S.W.1. 1s. net).

"M.K's. contribution to the present widespread discussion on Equal Pay is clear and readable. *The Englishwoman* also contains a vivid description of the experiences of the small relief party that went to America early in 1916—the narrative is to be concluded next month—and an article on Sophia Jex-Blake. Regular readers will welcome Miss Lowndes' "Tinker."

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PELMANISM AND INDIVIDUALITY

By CORPORAL ARTHUR F. THORN

(Author of "Richard Jefferies and Civilisation," "Social Satires," etc.).

It is an unfortunate fact that the average untrained mind is not easily accessible to ideas. It does not realize that ideas, either good or bad, shape those conditions of society which eventually lift the individual above or press him down beneath the surface of life and opportunity. The faculty of thought, that mysterious gift which differentiates man from the animals, and affords him power over his destiny, has never yet been adequately considered by the people. They do not, for example, perceive that thought, and the ideas which are the natural product of thought, create, sustain and develop the material conditions of life which surround them in the form of environment.

The average untrained mind does not relate the fact of thought to the facts of material conditions, for the very good reason that it does not properly understand the function and power of thought. It would not in any way be an extreme statement to make that more than half the tragedy of human life occurs simply because people do not understand the function and possibilities of thought. But, without being unduly optimistic, it is more than probable that humanity is about to enter into a phase of social life which will insist more and more that the people shall be provided with every possible opportunity of developing their latent mind and brain power. In the strenuous future that lies before the world, virile brains will count as never before in the history of mankind.

At one time, not so very far behind us, the people were not considered to be capable of thinking! They were specially created by an all-wise Providence in order to carry out the desires and schemes of that select and exclusive few who alone possessed the faculty of thought. The people, it was said, were destined by Nature to be controlled and exploited by the mental aristocrats, to be used up mainly for the benefit and advantage of others. That, roughly, was the position a generation or two ago.

Since that time, however, the ideals and ideas of a few great men and women have changed and confounded the pernicious doctrine which refused to recognise the fact of Universal Mind. The democratic educational idea which conceives that every individual's mind and brain is a sacred and divine gift which must be allowed freedom and opportunity to expand and unfold, materialized in the form of a system of popular State-subsidised education for the people, and opened up enormous possibilities for educational development. This system, faulty as it undoubtedly is in its working, does, nevertheless, express the now generally accepted idea that every individual possesses a mind and brain which is entitled at least to respect. In the light of history this idea represents a very remarkable advance, and is nothing less than the triumph of a great ideal.

Progress, we may agree, is a slow and oftimes uncertain affair, but there can be no question whatever as to the beneficial idea contained in the principle of education for all, both rich and poor. The final achievement that remains to be accomplished, in order to derive a full benefit from this idea, is the perfecting of the methods of education in order to ensure that the precious quality of individuality shall not be damaged and made to suffer unnecessarily in consequence of a defective system. We must not spoil the exception for the sake of the rule. We must not, for instance, direct a mind which possesses musical genius into a groove which is calculated to help a lawyer mind, or an architect mind. We must not side-track any particular natural talent into a channel which will most certainly retard its progress and rob it of early recognition and success. This is the paramount problem for the teacher in the immediate future.

The dawn of a new educational era is undoubtedly predicted and assured by the growing success of Pelmanism. This system, known as "Pelmanism," is not an academic and conventional system; it does not teach a person history, geography, or mathematics, but it enables the individual mind more readily to grasp the deeper meaning of these things; to perceive the ideas behind them, and master not only the technique and external values, but also to compare, analyse, and relate the individual mental life of the student to the educational facts which he has to assimilate.

Pelmanism is an extra force whose significance lies behind and beyond the mere study of established facts. It is symptomatic of the coming new age in which vigorous creative thought shall not be regarded as an entirely exclusive quality possessed by a divinely appointed few, but as a natural gift to all Pelmanism quickens the perception and makes vivid the significance of whatever particular subject the student is naturally interested in; it increases the enjoyment of study because it introduces a new meaning and a new interest into the circle of intelligence.

Education, scientifically considered, is not an end in itself. A man may learn the best English dictionary from cover to cover, and at the same time be incapable of writing an intelligent letter. A man may know the name of every wild flower in England and at the same time be quite incapable of appreciating the natural beauty of wild flowers. This is education stifling itself. . . . Education sterile and profitless. It would be better to have no such "Education" at all. True education exists in order to enable each individual mind to express itself fully in relation to life as a whole. It exists to draw personality into its own unique atmosphere and congenial environment. If education does not at least attempt to do this, then it is a menace to the individual.

It seems to be universally recognised that Pelmanism is essentially a system designed for the benefit of the individual mind. One does not study Pelmanism in order to develop a certain specific mentality which may at once be recognised and labelled "Pelman"; for, apart from the fact that Pelmanism in any case makes for bright brains and lively imagination, there must always remain the existence of *individuality*, that supreme factor which all true education seeks, not to obliterate, but to strengthen and fortify.

The primary function of the Pelman System is to *stimulate the mind and extend its activities in whatever direction they naturally tend.* This, it seems to me, is the most vital truth about the Pelman System; that it is not a system intended to train the individual mind in any predestined groove or conventional channel, but rather to amplify and invigorate the natural mental tendencies of the individual in order to release them from unnecessary and artificial limitations.

Pelmanism, then, means simply—*Mental individuality.* Pelmanism emphasises and insists upon those most potent factors in human life, the twin factors of individual thought and individual initiative. These are the only forces in human experience that can make life worthy of living. These alone will afford us that personal control over our own particular purpose and destiny which is productive of happiness and freedom.

A full explanation of Pelmanism (with a description of the Pelman Course and a complete Synopsis of the lessons) is given in the pages of "Mind and Memory." A copy of this fascinating booklet, together with a reprint of "Truth's" sensational article on Pelmanism, and particulars showing how you may, at present, secure the complete Course for one-third less than the usual fees, will be sent gratis and post free to all readers of THE COMMON CAUSE *upon application on a post card or the coupon below, to The Pelman Institute, 177, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. 1.*

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Sir,—Please send me, gratis and post free, a copy of the book "Mind and Memory," a copy of "Truth's" latest report, and particulars of the Special Offer entitling me to take the Pelman Course for one-third less than the usual fees.

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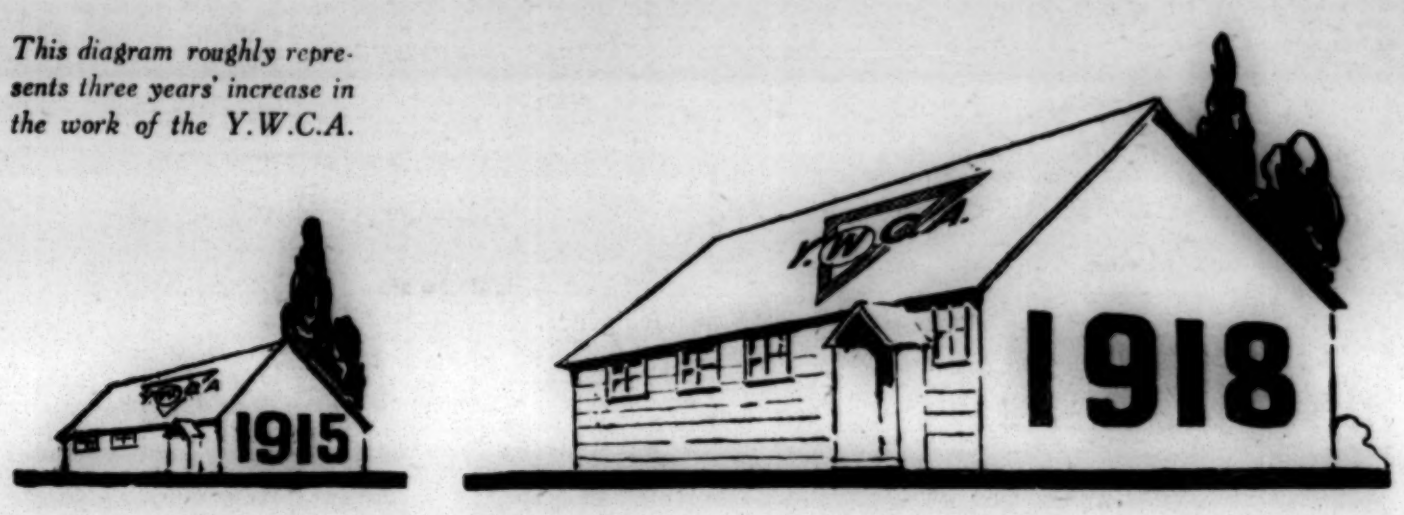
This diagram roughly represents three years' increase in the work of the Y.W.C.A.



Three Years' Progress of the Y.W.C.A.

IN three years the Y.W.C.A. has at least decupled its work and activities. It has proved the very Vanguard of National Service and Betterment. Here are some records:—

In 1915 there were 10 Y.W.C.A. Huts, Clubs, Canteens and Hostels started for war-workers.

To-day there are over 250.

In 1915 the Y.W.C.A. Clubs helped business clerks, munition girls and servants.

To-day they are crowded by every type of war-worker—Munition workers, A.P.C. clerks, Land-girls, Q.M.A.A.C., W.R.A.F., W.R.N.S.

In 1917 the Q.M.A.A.C. was formed, and the Y.W.C.A. had built one Blue Triangle Hut in France.

To-day there are 30 in France, 30 in England.

This progress is a result of the demands of the women themselves—of the Government authorities—of employers.

The Y.W.C.A. has provided sleeping accommodation in crowded factory towns, in railway stations, and at sea-ports. It has built Huts for the Women's Services in France and England. It has established war-work centres in India and Egypt, and Clubs for Army Nurses and V.A.D.'s at Cairo, Bagdad, Amara, and Bombay. The Y.W.C.A. provides Recreation Clubs for the Women's Services, and food, recreation and housing for all classes of war-workers. It cares for a million women and girls. All these are tangible proofs of the great work. But the spiritual intangible things are of even greater significance.

No one can calculate the influence of the Blue Triangle Recreation Huts on the comfort of the Women's Services; the benefit of War-workers' Clubs, Hostels and Canteens to the health of the munition girls, on whose labours the lives of our soldiers depend.

It is for this work of vast scope that the Y.W.C.A. asks your assistance to-day. Much has been done—much remains to do. *Now* is the time.

If you have given nothing before, ask yourself if you should leave it all to others. If you have given—repeat, if you can, your donation, and see through the good work to which you have set your hand.

Y.W.C.A.

Please send your cheque to-day to the
Lord Sydenham of Combe, or
Miss Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E.,
26, George Street,
Hanover Square, W. 1.

Women Wartime Workers' Fund, Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.

Root and Branch. Vol. II., No. IV. (The Morland Press, 190, Ebury Street. Quarterly, 2s.)

The June number of *Root and Branch* contains two poems by Edward Eastaway (Thomas) which, though not as good as his best, not even particularly good, are so characteristic of him that they are charming. Through all his poems, rare, profound, haunting, or merely whimsical, runs a hint of tragedy, of finality; and this is true of "The Unknown Bird":—

> . . . "No one saw him; I alone could hear him
> Though many listened. Was it but four years
> Ago? or five? He never came again."

John Freeman's poem is careful but not inspired; Miss Farjeon's is de la Maresque. Of the art contributions "Landscape at Shorne" is very pleasing; "The Stead," confused; "Music and Prayer," bad; and Mr. Sleigh's engraving reminiscent of Beardsley's very early and very *un*-"Beardsley" book-plates and drawings. As usual, the magazine is exquisitely printed and got up

Correspondence.

THE NEED FOR ORGANISATION.

Madam,—I am a regular reader of The Common Cause, but owing to an accident the issue for September 13th has only just reached me. I hope that, nevertheless, you will grant me space for a comment on your first paragraph for that week.

With the main argument, i.e., the urgent need for organisation on the part of women workers of all grades, I am in entire agreement; but I cannot help feeling that it is of at least equal importance that in dealing with any industrial question, especially in these difficult times, clear thinking and a sense of justice should be maintained. The comparison made between untrained women earning 30s. weekly in munition industries and workers in the dressmaking trade, who are to get 16s. after eighteen months' experience, is not only misleading, but calculated to bring discredit on a very genuine and, so far as it goes, successful attempt to standardise working conditions by mutual agreement in a trade which only six months ago was, perhaps, the least organised of any, both on the side of employers and employed.

The untrained munition workers earning 30s. weekly must be almost, if not quite, all over eighteen years of age. The dressmakers referred to are children, who at fourteen start their apprenticeship to a very skilled trade, under conditions which ensure them definite rates of wages, rising at the close of the third half-year (i.e., when they are fifteen and a-half) to 16s. for the forty-eight-hour week. During their two years' apprenticeship, the employer is bound to allow them to attend Trade School classes for two half-days weekly, without deduction of wages. Further, they are paid for all Bank Holidays, and get holidays during the summer, with full pay (one week after six months' service and two weeks after one year).

By the same agreement are fixed several other conditions of work and rates of pay for every grade of worker after the conclusion of the period of apprenticeship; but these points do not concern the comparison made. This I maintain was radically unfair, since the conditions are absolutely different in the two trades compared, and the implication is that the dressmakers paid the wage of 16s. are also older workers, not apprentices under sixteen years of age.

Eleanor T. Kelly.

A GENERAL ELECTION

Madam,—As one who has for years been a convinced suffragist and who rejoices greatly at the passage into law of the Representation of the People Act, 1918, I am very surprised that the women's suffrage societies are not showing a more determined front in supporting a speedy General Election. I recently attended a meeting addressed by a prominent suffrage leader and was amazed to hear her express doubt as to the desirability of a General Election during the war. I also notice that in the otherwise excellent pamphlet published by your Society, "Votes and Responsibilities," this important point is entirely omitted. I would like to give a few of the many unanswerable reasons why suffragists should support Mr. Lloyd George's undoubted decision to appeal to the country this November.

(1) The staleness of the present Parliament.

(2) The fact that Reform Bills have always been speedily followed by elections.

(3) The urgent war problems and questions of social reconstruction arising after the war on which the electors have an unquestioned right to express an opinion.

(4) The ample provisions for absent voting by proxy and post which will prevent the election interfering one iota with the successful prosecution of the war.

(5) Just as the party truce caused by the war gave an ideal opportunity for the passage through Parliament of the Reform Act with the minimum of friction, so the National unity existing on account of the war makes the present the ideal time for giving the new electors the first opportunity of giving their real opinion, free from the pressure of the party whips.

(6) We are fighting, in the words of President Wilson, "to make the world safe for democracy." Let us prove our sincerity and determination by being true to it at home even in war-time.

I may say in writing this that I have not the slightest doubt that the Government have determined to have an election on the new register this November. My reason for writing this is because I feel that it is regrettable that those who have worked so hard and so long for women's suffrage as have the Suffrage Societies should not be showing greater enthusiasm now that "The Day" is near at hand. I, personally, rejoice greatly that the day is nearly here when women, including the grand pioneers like Mrs. Fawcett, your honoured President, will, side by side with the men, be able to record their votes on the vital issues now before the nation.

E. Henry Gordon.

Obituary.

SIR HUBERT PARRY.

Sir Hubert Parry, the distinguished composer, who died on October 7th, at the age of seventy, was a keen suffragist. His beautiful setting of Blake's "Jerusalem" was sung by the choir at the Celebration meeting in March of this year; he himself conducted it and the "Leonora" Overture. In answering a letter of Mrs. Fawcett's about "Jerusalem" he expressed the hope that it might become the women voters' hymn.

Reports, Notices, etc.

ENDOWMENT OF MOTHERHOOD.

In last week's "Notes and News" we referred to the first important conference on the Endowment of Motherhood held in the Milton Hall, Manchester, on September 25th. Over three hundred persons were present, representing a large number of women's organisations interested in the subject. Miss K. D. Courtney proposed and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence seconded a resolution adopting a scheme for the endowment of motherhood by which every mother with a child under five years of age would receive 12s. 6d. a week herself, plus 5s. for the first child and 3s. 6d. for each subsequent child. The conference considered many aspects of this proposal. Mrs. Theday opened a discussion on "Parental Responsibility and the Stability of the Home." Mrs. Walford Taylor spoke on the effect of the endowment of motherhood on the Birth Rate and Population, and Mrs. Annot Robinson on "The Problems and Dangers of State Control and Inspection." In each case open discussion followed the speech. The economic aspect of the subject was treated by Mrs. Stocks and Mr. Henderson (of the Cotton Control Board); then opened a discussion on the effect on wages and the question of equal pay for equal work. Miss Margaret Ashton spoke on the position of deserted wives with children. Prof. Unwin was the chief speaker against the resolution, which he opposed on the ground that it would encourage idleness among neglectful fathers, and although it might result in an increase in the birthrate, it would not necessarily produce an increase in the right type of citizen.

THE LIVING WAGE.

Lecture by Mr. Seebohm Rowntree, at the School of Economics, on October 3rd.

Mr. S. Rowntree opened his lecture by stating that he would prefer its title to be "The Minimum Wage." He asked, and proposed to answer, four questions:—

(1) Is a minimum wage desirable or necessary?
(2) What should it be for men and women respectively?
(3) Can it be secured?
(4) Should industry pay for it?

(1) The Lecturer warned everyone against a prevalent idea that the working classes were rolling in wealth. This was only true of a very small proportion, even of munition workers. Large numbers were working for less wages than in 1915. In York, for instance, the cost of living had risen 84 per cent.; to meet this a war bonus would have to be 26s. 9d. York Corporation workers were therefore worse off; and this was also true of employees of private firms.

As prices were continually rising, it was best to go back for statistics to pre-war days. In 1911, out of eight million adult men in regular employment, two and a half millions earned 25s. per week, or less; six million (three-quarters of the whole) earned 35s. per week, or less. These figures were also true in 1914. Besides this, there were half a million casual workers earning less.

Mrs. Sidney Webb had compiled some statistics of women for 1913. Of four million women, 9-10ths earned less than £1 per week.

(2) The minimum wage should be determined by human needs. Those above the minimum should be left to the haggling of the market. The lecturer proposed to deal separately with men and women. He reminded the audience that he was not dealing with the question of equal pay for equal work, but with the smallest wage on which the State ought to allow men and women respectively to subsist.

Men.—The wage should enable a man to marry and rear a family, leaving a margin for contingencies. How many dependents must be allowed for? Taking the city of York, and after elaborate calculations based on the census returns, it was discovered that out of two hundred and two thousand families with a mother of 45 or under, in 46 per cent. three children, and in 27 per cent. four children, were dependent for five years or more. 72 per cent. children belonged for a period of five years or more to families where there were three dependent children; more than half the children (54 per cent.) belonged for five years to families where four were dependent; 38 per cent. to families where five were dependent. Thus, if in determining what minimum wage to fix, you allowed for only three dependent children, three-quarters of the nation's children would be underfed for a period of five years or more. Even if you allowed for four dependent children, *half* of the nation's children would be underfed. It was therefore clearly impossible to allow for only three children.

Mr. Rowntree then stated the conclusions he had come to, after very careful study of dietary, rentals, and other matters, regarding the sum necessary for a man to keep a family properly: this sum was 35s. 3d. per week.

Women. The statements to follow, said the lecturer, applied to industrial women. It was not normal for women to have dependents; of 516 cases investigated, five out of six had no dependents. When they have, it is due to special circumstances, which should be met direct, as special circumstances for men are met—and not out of wages. A minimum wage for women must, therefore, be fixed without allowance for dependents. In estimating a woman's needs, it was essential to allow a good deal for clothing; an unmarried girl, if well-dressed, had a far better chance of making a good marriage. The necessary minimum was 20s.

None of the above figures would apply to after the war; living would

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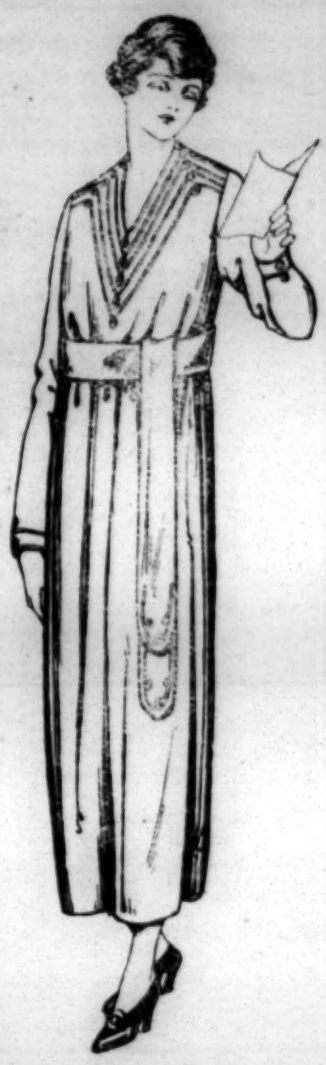

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never be as low as before; at the lowest it would be 25 per cent. higher than in 1914. The minimum post-war wage would therefore be: men 44s. per week, women 25s. Mr. Rowntree reiterated that he was not dealing with the subject of equal pay, but with the question of how little the State ought to allow a woman to subsist on.

(3) As to how to secure the minimum, it would be right to establish Trade Boards in every industry, with a *statutory* duty (which at present they had not) to obtain for all men a sufficient wage. The statute should declare that within a certain time every normal worker must be paid the fixed wage; time would have to be allowed for industry to adapt itself to the rise.

(4) Mr. Rowntree was of the opinion that industry would be able to furnish the extra three hundred to five hundred millions a year which the minimum would entail. The workers ought to have a larger proportion of the wealth of industries. In many cases there was a margin of profit from which some of the cost could come, but the bulk of the money would come from the better organisation of industry; by (*a*) making more use of science, as in the case of agriculture; (*b*) a system of payment to make it worth the workers' while to give of their best, not only physically, but mentally; (*c*) a system whereby employees would be relieved from the fear of unemployment: at present there was a tendency to spin out the present job, for fear of not finding another; (*d*) Improved relations between employer and employees.

There ought not, Mr. Rowntree said in conclusion, to be industrial peace as long as millions of workers earn a wage inadequate for the support of their families.

EQUAL PAY OR SEX DISTINCTION?

The appeal of the Coal Controller for the extension of female labour about the mines has increased the interest in the work of the War Cabinet Committee which is investigating the relations which should exist between the wages of men and women. The Fabian Research Department Conference on this question will be held at 25, Tothill Street, Westminster, at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, October 17th, the day after the National Labour Women's Conference. Dr. Marion Phillips will preside, and among those who have promised to speak are Miss Ellen C. Wilkinson (Co-operative Employees' Union), Mrs. Lawton (Co-operative Women's Guild), Miss Mary Macarthur National Federation of Women Workers), Mr. W. L. Hichens (Cammell Lairds, Ltd.), and several others. All interested in the question of women's wages are cordially invited to be present.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Report on Maternity Endowment, which was the subject of an article in last week's issue, is published by Headley Bros., at 1s. net., should be ordered through booksellers—*not*, as was stated in our columns, from a private source.

Items of Interest.

Readers who have taken an interest in The Common Cause Y.W.C.A. Huts will be interested to learn that Miss Edith Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E., Vice-President, and one of the leaders of the National Y.W.C.A. of Great Britain, is shortly visiting America to speak at meetings arranged during the autumn by a Joint Committee of the Y.W.C.A. and Y.M.C.A., and to study conditions of women's war-time welfare work. The invitation from the National War Work Council of America emphasises the crucial turning-point, industrial and political, at which the women of the United States stand. They are just launching on the paths that English women have already trod, and the American Association feels that Miss Picton-Turbervill's broad experience will be invaluable to them and will help to enlist national sympathy in the programme of welfare and social work which they are carrying out on behalf of the Government. The vast audiences assembled from the Atlantic to the Pacific in the weeks preceding the campaign will afford an incomparable opportunity to plead the cause of Christian womanhood in the re-birth of the world.

An Organisation for Organisers.—The watchword of the moment is "Organise," and women who, in additional numbers, are being engaged as organisers for political parties, and the work of Social and Industrial Reconstruction, should themselves unite to protect their own status and profession. Indusrialism will be in the melting pot, the market will be flooded with displaced workers, new Societies will spring up, all needing the assistance of trained organisers. The National Union of Women Organisers and Organisin~ Secretaries, which commenced its existence within the limits of the N.U.W.S.S. (President, Mrs. Annot Robinson, of Manchester), invites the membership of all organisers and organising secretaries. The subscription is 5s. a year. Further particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Bury, 40, Shandwick Place, Edinbugh.

The Women's Movement in France.—The work which women have been able to do during the war has given a great impetus to the women's movement in France as elsewhere. We notice in a recent number of the periodical *Foi et Vie*, side by side with an account of Frenchwomen's efforts for the refugees, an article by Mme. de Witt-Schlumberger on "Women in the Ministry." Mme. de Witt-Schlumberger is convinced that sooner or later the religious services of women will be accepted in France; and she bases this expectation partly on the ground that a greater number of women than men experience the need of religion and of religious ministrations. The services of women in subordinate positions have, as she points out, always been willingly accepted; but although humble work should never be despised, women conscious of possessing high qualities will not be willing to be relegated indefinitely to work that is beneath their powers. The whole article is a well-reasoned and eloquent appeal for women's free choice of their own work.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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Headquarter Notes.

Several changes at headquarters have to be recorded. To the great regret of the Executive Committee, Mrs. Russell has been obliged to resign the position of Hon. Treasurer of the Union owing to indifferent health, and Mrs. Fisher and Miss Rosamond Smith have kindly undertaken to carry on this arduous work till the next Annual Council Meeting. It was with great regret also, that the Executive Committee accepted Miss Atkinson's resignation from the position of Hon. Literary Secretary. It is impossible to estimate all that Miss Atkinson has done for the Literature Department, but it is certain that the Union will join with the Executive Committee in their regret at Miss Atkinson's resignation. Owing to ill-health, Miss Eustace has had to resign from the Executive Committee, where her experience of work in country societies will be much missed. Mr. J. R. Cross has been co-opted to the vacancy caused by this resignation. The loss of Miss Evans's services in the office will be severely felt. Miss Evans had worked for the Union since 1912 and had an intimate knowledge both of the societies and of the Parliamentary work. Her services, especially at the time of the passing of the Representation of the People Act, will be gratefully remembered by the officers, the Executive Committee, and the whole Union. In order to economise at headquarters, two rooms have been given up and a re-organisation of the staff has taken place. Miss Agnew has taken up the duties of Secretary, and is combining with them those of Assistant Secretary and assistant in the Finance Department.

Contributions to the General Fund.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
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Mrs. Thomas King		10	0
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Mrs. Fisher, sale of Baby's Socks		11	0
Southampton Jumble Sale, per Mrs. Alys Russell	8	18	0
Mrs. A. Jeffrey		2	6
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N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals

LONDON UNITS.

ELSIE INGLIS FIELD HOSPITAL.

The Elsie Inglis Unit is now participating in the great Franco-Serb offensive. In August a new transport camp was established at K——, a village considerably nearer to the front than the hospital camp N. of Vodena. Miss Hedges, Chief Transport Officer, reports that 3,059 cases were carried during the month, many of the ambulances covering over 2,000 kilometres during that period. The new camp, designed to serve as an advance dressing station, has a well-built mess hut, bath-room and kitchen, as well as the tents, and as it lies close to the road is the centre of much attention. One of the staff writes: "We have a good many visitors, and cementing the Entente takes up a good deal of time, but it is very good for one's languages."

The Treasurers of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals appeal for funds. Owing to the fierce fighting the Jugo-Slav casualties are heavy, and medical and surgical stores need constant renewal. Contributions should be sent to Lady Cowdray or Miss T. Gosse, 66, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

The latest news from the Unit comes from Miss Geraldine Hedges, whose transport column has gone still nearer to the front position. Six motor ambulances have been sent on to a point in advance of the new camp at K——, and the women have been driving their cars by day and night over mountain roads which at any other time would be described as impassable for motors. The Serbian Chef de Santé visited the camp to thank Miss Hedges and her staff for "their excellent work, their courage and general efficiency, both now and before the offensive." Miss Hedges writes: "If only we had twice as many ambulances."

Last month M. Trifounovitch, Serbian Minister of Education, delivered at the London Units office a graceful speech of thanks to the Scottish women on behalf of his Government and his compatriots. He closed with the words:—

> "Mesdames,—Je voudrais dire, si vous le permettez, sœurs écossaises—croyez que votre amitié nous est une grande consolation, un grand renfort pour supporter tout jusqu'au bout, jusqu'a la victoire du droit, qui nous permetra de nous unir, de rentrer dans nos foyers devastés et de nous développer en paix—car nous sommes un peuple pacifique."

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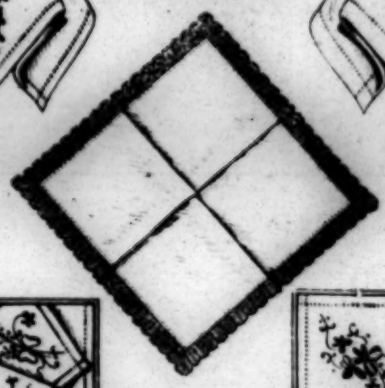

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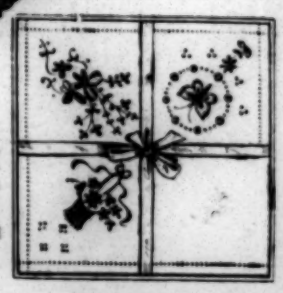

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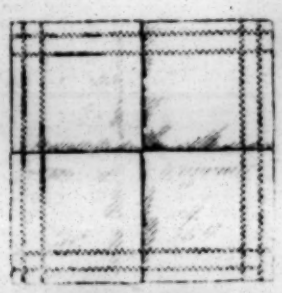

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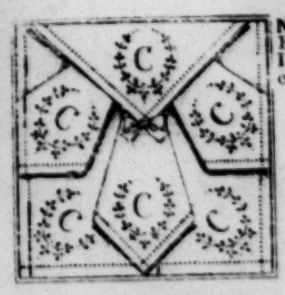

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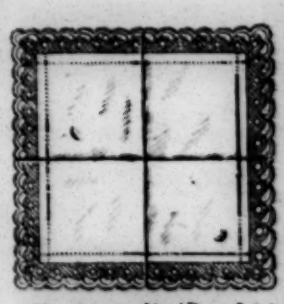

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The Scottish Women's Hospital Committee are organising a Market Day Sale to take place on Thursday, October 10th, and ask for gifts in kind or donations towards the expenses from any friends who can help. Gifts of fruit, flowers, vegetables, or any kind of country or garden produce should be delivered at 22, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, not later than Wednesday, October 9th. All hampers should bear the name and address of the sender in order that they may be returned to the donors.

The Equipment Committee urgently appeal for gifts of games of all kinds for the patients in Corsica and Sallanches. They ask specially for draughts, chess (strong and not easily broken), Halma, playing cards, &c. Clock golf would be very useful. In these hospitals most of the patients are able to be out of bed, and it is very important they should be occupied and amused. Gifts should be sent to the Equipment Secretary, Scottish Women's Hospitals, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

	£	s.	d.
*Sir R. Rowand Anderson (Monthly)	2	0	0
*Lochgoilhead War Work Party, per Miss I. H. B. Macfarlane, Hon. Sec., Invermay, Douglas Pier	10	0	0
*"Joint Committee of Girton and Newnham War Hospital Fund," per Miss Isabel P Scott, Co. Treas., £25 collected by Miss Ricketts for further 6 months for one of the "Old Hall" Beds	100	0	0
*Alex. Cupples (Monthly donation)	2	0	0
*Miss Eliz. Rae (Monthly donation)		2	6
*Elsie Inglis Memorial Fund," per Mrs. Wallace Williamson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh: Subscriptions earmarked for Scottish Women's Hospitals (Sallanches and Serbia)	2,000	0	0
*Alf. McIntosh, Esq.	25	0	0
*"Trades House and Incorporations Joint Subscriptions to War Funds, per Harry Lumsden, Esq., Incorporation of Wrights, per Deacon Convenor Jackson Millar	26	0	0
*Messrs. Walter Black & Co., 1, East Nile Street, Glasgow	3	0	0
*"Scottish Teachers' Fund for War Relief," per Hugh McCallum, Esq.	100	0	0
*Wm. Lyon, Esq.	2	0	0
*Collected by Miss A. M. Williamson, for upkeep of the "September" Bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
*Mrs. Tiffany, of New York (Monthly donation)	5	3	4
*Balance of Funds of the late "Rangoon Mounted Rifles Club," per A. Scobie, Esq., Hon Treas., S.W.H., Rangoon	75	10	5
Results of War Work done by the Committee of the Olton W.S.S. and Collection taken at Meeting of the W.S.S., per Mrs. Smith, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	5	0	0
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose (Monthly donation)		10	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: *Workmen's Scheme:* Rosebank Ironworks, Edinburgh, Employees (Messrs. Brown Bros. & Co. Ltd.) (£20 2s. 6d.), Employees, Messrs. R. & A. Main, Goltrie Ironworks, Falkirk (£11 15s. 9d.), Employees, Camelin Iron Co., Falkirk, per A. S. Anderson, Esq., Director (£5), Employees, Messrs. MacTaggart Scott & Co., Station Ironworks, Loanhead, per J. Laurie £3 17s. 3d.), Employees, Messrs. Thomson & Porteous, Leith Street, Edinburgh (£3 13s. 6d.), Employees, Messrs. Hill, Craig & Co., Paper Works, Balermo, Midlothian (£2 12s.), Women Clerks Accountants Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£2 3s.), Employees, Messrs. Macpherson & McLaren Ltd., Saw Mills, Grangemouth, per Thos. Dunn (£1 6s.), Employees, Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik, per Thos. Ainslie, Esq., Cashier (£1 1s. 9d.), T. Gordon, Esq., Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik (£5), Pupils, Bathgate Academy, Bathgate, Stirlingshire, per Robert A. Brown Esq., Rector (£1 10s.), National Union of Railwaymen Edinburgh, No. 1 Branch, per W. Lockhart, Esq. (£1), Newton Street, Boswells Branch, National Union of Railwaymen, per Geo. Mathers (2s. 6d.)	59	4	3
Anonymous	2	0	0
Mrs. J. H. Gordon, Liverpool, per Mrs. Gordon, Kensington (Royaumont)	5	0	0
Miss Robina Matheson		5	0
Forward as per list to September 12th, 1918	35,810	2	9
Further donations received to September 28th, 1918:—			
*Iron Trades Employers' Insurance Association Limited, 105, West George Street, Glasgow, per Harry Lumsden, Esq., Joint Secretary	33	6	8
Joseph McCrae, Esq.	5	0	0
Per Miss Helen Ancliffe, Hon. Sec. Ambleside W.S.S., Result of Collection taken at Ambleside on September 12th, addressed by Miss Walker, for "Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital"	8	0	0
Mrs. Balderston		10	0
Thos. Kirkhope, Esq., for the "Isabella Bertram Kirkhope" Bed, Royaumont	10	0	0
*Per Mrs. Russell: J. M. Scott, Esq.	25	0	0
*Proceeds of Flag Day in Kintore, on September 14th, per Mrs. Macpherson	5	14	8
Anonymous		10	6
*Per Miss Edith A. Macintyre, Hon. Treas., Dundee W.S.S., Proceeds of Flag Day held in Dundee and District on August 24th	280	13	6
*Miss K. M. Loudon, for the "Charles Loudon" Bed, Royaumont	25	0	0
*Members of the Leeds West Branch Amalgamated Society of Engineers, per A. J. Kirkbride, Esq. (Serbia)		13	6
Miss Maggie Cunningham	1	0	0
*Mrs. B. P. Young, towards "Trinity Heroes" Bed, Royaumont	1	1	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: *Workmen's Scheme:* W. S.			

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*Per Mrs. Robertson, Kilmarnock: *Employees of Portland Forge Co. Ltd. (41st donation) (£2 0s. 0d.), *Messrs. Boyd & Forrest, Kilmarnock (94th contribution) (£2 2s. 3d.)	4	2	4
Mrs. MacNair	1	0	0
*Adams Cairns, Esq.	3	3	0
*Collection from the Clerks in the Claims and Record Office, Kew, for the "Clerks in the Claims and Record Office, Kew," Bed, per Miss Janet Smith	5	7	6
Miss Marguerite Wilson, c/o Messrs. Wilson & Baird, 272, Scotland street, Glasgow ...	10	0	
Further donations from Canada: *Per Miss Kathleen Burke: Per Sir Edmund Walker, The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto: Half for the sixteen beds in the Hamilton, Ont., Madge Neill Fraser Memorial Ward in S.W.H. in Corsica; Half for the Madge Neill Fraser Beds with the Elsie Inglis Unit	1,649	9	8
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr: Proceeds of Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme (27th instalment) ...	100	0	0
	£365,981	3	9

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Further List of Beds Named.

Names of Beds.	*Donors.*
"Vernon Booth" (In Memory of an American Aviator who died in Royaumont) (Royaumont, 1 year)	Per Dr. Francis Ivens, Royaumont.
"Charles London" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Miss K. M. London, North Berwick.
"Isabella Bertram Kirkhope" (Royaumont, 1 year)	Thos. Kirkhope, Esq., Ardrossan.
"The Murrays" (Royaumont, further 1 year)	Per Mrs. Ellis, Ormiston.
"Annie B. McNeill" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland.
"Dalry Public School and Workers" (Salonica, further 3 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland, Per Jas. McCosh, Esq., Dalry.
"In Memory of Commander R. H. Llewelyn" (Royaumont, 1 year) ...	Per Miss Shankland, Duncan MacCallum, Esq., Campbeltown.
"Welsh Ward" (Sallanches, further donation)	Welsh Fund, S.W.H., per Miss Mabel Howell, Hon. Sec.
"Hastings and St. Leonards" (Salonica, Girton and Newnham Unit, further 6 months)	Per Miss M. A. Underdown.
"Bingley" (Corsica, further 9 months)	Per Miss C. M. Ryley, Suffolk.
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"Innerleithen and Walkerburn" (2 beds) (Salonica, further 6 months)	Per Miss Robertson, Innerleithen
"Old Hall" (Girton and Newnham Unit, further 6 months)	Per Miss Isabel Scott, Co. Treas., Girton and Newnham War Hospital.
"September" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Collected by Miss A. M. Williamson

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OCTOBER 11.

Stevenage—Public Hall—Women Citizens' Association—Chair: Mrs. Unwin Heathcote—Speakers: Lady Nott-Bower, Miss Mercer ... 3.15 p.m.

Willesden—Willesden Women Citizens' Association — St. Gabriel's Hall, Cricklewood — Speaker: Mrs. C. D. Rackham—Subject: "The Machinery of Government" ... 8 p.m.

OCTOBER 14.

Birmingham—Medical Lecture Theatre, University—Speaker: Mrs. Ring—Subject: "Next General Election" ... 5.30 p.m.

Knebworth—Mission Room—Women Citizens' Association—Chair: Miss Plowden—Speaker: Miss Mercer ... 3 p.m.

Clapham—Wesleyan Sisterhood, High Street, Clapham—Speaker: Mrs. Watson—Subject: "Some Aspects of the Women's Movement" ... 3 p.m.

Peckham—Peckham Rye Mission Sisterhood, Princes Terrace—Speaker: Miss Helen Downs—Subject: "The Duties of Citizenship" ... 6.30 p.m.

Merton—Merton Hall Sisterhood, Morden Road—Subject: "Women's Work" ... 7.30 p.m.

OCTOBER 16.

Birmingham—Women's Settlement—Speaker Mrs. Ring—Subject: "The Women's Vote" ... 8 p.m.

Bristol—At Southville—Speaker: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross—Subject: "The Need for Women Police and Magistrates" ... 3 p.m.

Surbiton—By kind invitation of Mrs. Horner, a drawing-room meeting will be held at Caverleigh, Margle Road, Surbiton, to meet the candidates for Kingston and hear their views on the Programme of the N.U.W.S.S. ... 3 p.m.

OCTOBER 16.

Darlington — Mechanics' Institute — Public Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.—Chair: Rt. Hon. H. Pike-Pease, M.P. ... 7.30 p.m.

OCTOBER 17.

Marylebone — Marylebone Women's Liberal Association, 6, Northwich Terrace—Hostess: Miss Bradley—Speaker: Mrs. Watson—Subject: "Women and the Housing Question" ... 3.15 p.m.

OCTOBER 18.

Brighton—Oddfellows' Hall, Queen's Road—Speaker: Mrs. Oliver Strachey—Chair: Rev. T. Rhondda Williams ... 8 p.m.

OWING to illness, Miss Maude Royden has been compelled to cancel all her engagements for October. She hopes to resume in November the course of sermons on "The Problem of the Suffering" at the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

Coming Event.

OCTOBER 15.

National Baby Week Council—Meeting of the Council at Armitage Hall, 224, Great Portland Street, W. 1 ... 2.30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members £1 11s. 6d., Country Members £1 5s. per annum from date of entrance (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members 10s. 6d.). Weekly Lectures; House Dinners; Valuable Feminist Lending and Reference Library available to Members; Excellent Catering; Luncheons and Dinners à la Carte.—All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

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